Summer, 1996

Published quarterly by the Glen Park Association

Building Department Issues Permit for 667 Chenery

— Les Gerstmann

Construction at 667 Chenery (the building or facsimile thereof) is expected to resume this summer. Progress of construction came to a halt last fall when the Building Department was notified of demolition work that was not in compliance with the permit. Since that time the Building Department has determined that the non-complying demolition was within the intent of city code and the contractor has applied for new permits. The project was also

(continued on page 7)

Shelley Schedules Hearing

Kevin Shelley, president of the Board of Supervisors, has scheduled a hearing to consider the conflict between the neighborhood and Rec & Park concerning the traffic prohlem in Glen Canyon Park.

The hearing will be held:
Tuesday, July 16 at 10:00 am
Board Committee Room, 4th floor
War Memorial Building
401 Van Ness Avenue

See page 3 for more material on the park use conflict.

GUARDIAN ANGELS VISIT GLEN PARK

We played host to two angels at our last Glen Park Association meeting ß Guardian Angels, that is. The visitors were Guardian Angel Regional Director, Ted Fowler and San Francisco chapter leader, David Scanlon.

Ted Fowler explained that patrol efforts are focussed on the idea of training citizens to be a visible deterrent to crime. Members are not expected to detain or physically confront criminals. Their presence is a warning to those who are breaking the law. Patrol members will alert police and are trained to provide descriptions and information.He cited groups as diverse as the Martin Luther King housing projects patrol group to the St. Francis organization whose youngest member is 55 years old.

"Who wants to commit .a crime with 40 eyes watching you?," asked Ted.

COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

The Glen Park Neighborhood Association is planning a "Community Festival" for September/October of this year. This will be an opportunity for neighbor to meet neighbor, neighbors to meet merchants and all of us to meet each other and pull our wonderful community together as we explore the many opportunities available to the people living in Glen Park.

The tentative plans are to have booths for persons who wish to sell items (garage, flea, art, jeweiry or whatever), to have games and things for children to do, to have distrihution of materials about services in the neighborhood (i.e., library, small business, hig business, events, park activities, etc.) In addition, neighborhood groups such as Glen Park Neighborhood Association, GP DOG (Glen Park Dog Owners Guild) and Friends of Glen Canyon will have membership applications and descriptions of their organizations. There will be food concessions and we are hoping for entertainment as well.

(Continued on page 5.)

BE AN ANGEL!

FREE TRAINING OFFERED

The Guardian Angels training program for neighborhood patrols is FREE, and takes about four sessions to complete.
Any age welcome!

To begin training, find nineteen other people who are interested. (20 people are required to begin training)Train now! Contact
Allison Kinsell at 585–9941 or email akinsell@hooked.net

Glen Park Association Meeting Notes

Wildflowers and Neighborhood Safety

At the Glen Park Association April meeting, members enjoyed an informative slide presentation by Richard Craib, President of Friends of Glen Canyon. Richard showed beautiful slides of the many varieties of wildflowers which grow in Glen Canyon.

At the May meeting, the membership met a representative of San Francisco Neighborhood Safety Partnership, a new advocacy group which will help neighborhoods organize around safety concerns such as SAFE groups, self defense classes and the like. Captain Dower of Ingleside Police Station reported that the Glen Park neighborhood will soon have a beat patrol officer. In addition, the Guardian Angels gave a presentation on how to set up a neighborhood patrol group. (See article, this page, by Allison Kinsell, GPA Program Chair.)

Just a reminder that the Glen Park Association will have no meeting in August.

From the Editor

The Glen Park Association Newsletter has undergone major changes. Look for new regular features, photos and graphics in this issue. The format changes in the GLEN PARK News reflects the neighborhood's vitality and expanding interest in issues that affect us: safety, housing, environment, education, transportation, public events. Our intention is to provide an opportunity for you to discuss ideas and controversies, and to keep you informed about your neighborhood.

We'd like to here from you! To report any news you see, ideas for a story, or letters to the editor, write to us at:

Glen Park Association
P.O. Box 31292
SF, CA 94131
attn: Glen Park News

Stories about the history of Glen Park are of special interest to your neighbors. Photographs and line drawings to help explain a story would be welcomed. Please include your address and phone number.

Glen Park News supports local business advertisers as a vital part of our neighborhood. We encourage you to support them, too. Local business provide jobs for our youth, support neighborhood improvement projects, and provide a friendly environment to do business. Glen Park Village is a great place to get to know your neighbors!

Readers may be wondering why all these birds decorate the pages of the Glen Park News. For several reasons: They are not just *birds*. They are our neighbors the redtailed hawks that glide so serenely above Glen Canyon Park and occasionally grace the fences and trees around our homes. The Hawk is also seen by Native Americans and several other cultures as a messenger. An appropriate symbol for our neighborhood paper.

New GPA Board of Directors

Officers for the 1996-1997 year were elected at our February annual meeting. Congratulations to all the new officers and thanks to all the continuing and past officers.

President	John Dahlen	469–8428
Vice-President	Zoanne Nordstrom	585–4267
Treasurer	Ellis Gans	586–1073
Recording Secretary	Joan Seiwald	586–4448
Corresponding Secretary	Kristin Nash	586-3101
Membership Secretary	Ed Hartnett	334–1010
Neighborhood Improvement	Steve Skinner	333–1375
Newsletter Editor	Molly Wright	337–6574
Program	Allison Kinsell	585-9941
Public Safety	Vince Beaudet	337-1914
Recreation & Parks	Barbara Zierten	239–4235
Traffic & Safety	Linda Montgomery	585–6314
Zoning & Planning	Les Gerstmann	337–1724
	Mark Zinky	587–6108
NIT-AMP Liaison	Miriam Moss	585–1635

Glen Park News

Glen Park News is published quarterly by the Glen Park Association in December, March, June and September. Signed articles are the opinions of the authors and not necessarily those of the Glen Park Association.

We Get Letters

I attended all the "Working Group" meetings which were supposed to try to resolve the issue of what a park is for: cars or people. I get angry at the lack of responsibility on the part of the and Park people. It seems to me that this so–called consensus process was a cop-out by Park and Rec so they did not have to take responsibility for doing their job of protecting park lands for the use of everyone. Park and Rec used this so called process to stall the car versus people issue for another year even though 75% of the parents in the Silvertree program~ of last year said they would park in the neighborhood and walk or carpool if they could not drive into the building. Did Park and Rec even try to have parents walk in? No!

I don't understand why 44 private school people and 150 day camp people can drive and ruin the park experience for everyone else. Is personal convenience (and laziness) more important than a park experience by hundreds of other park users? Who is looking out for the people who want to walk, play, run, climb and enjoy a park without having to worry about their safety because of cars?

I have lived in Glen Park for 33 of my 37 years. I have used the park in many ways. Silvertree, baseball, sports, football, rock climbing, picnics, walking dogs, and hundreds of other ways. (When I'd get angry at my Mom or brothers, I'd go to the park to think and relax.) I never had to deal with cars. They were not allowed to drive into the park. What has happened to the kids today? Are they going to be driven everywhere? How will they enjoy nature if they think it comes from a car? What is wrong with parents who don't think their kids can walk? Are they nuts? Lazy? Selfish? Or what?

Thomas Theriault

Cars in Glen Canyon Park

Reflections on the Working Group Process

— By Barbara Zierten, Rec and Park Chair

They called it a "working" group. They weren't kidding. For almost two months, 12 people sat around a table trying to come to some sort of compromise or consensus on what to do about cars in Glen Canyon. Did we accomplish anything? No. Did we work hard to reach some agreement? Some did. Some did not.

The Working Group was made up of one representative each from The Glen Park Association (yours truly), Glen Park D.O.G., the Silver Tree Summer Program, Neighbors for a Car Free Park, Glen Ridge Nursery School, Diamond Heights Association, unaffiliated park users, contiguous neighbors, environmental groups, unaffiliated park users,

(Continued on page 7)

Quality Health Care for Women and Children

UCSF and San Francisco General Hospital have teamed up to open a new medical group practice for women and children that will serve residents of the Glen Park neighborhood. The Excelsior Group HealthCare for Women and Children opened in May in a modern, newly remodeled building at 4434 Mission Street, corner of Francis Street.

The nurse manager for the group is Gloria Yee, a Glen Park resident. "We want to provide access to health care for women and children in a comfortable, culturally sensitive environment with backup provided by medical institutions that are among the best in the country," said Jay Bachicha, MD, a UCSF obstetrician gynecologist who directs the new group. The center's staff — which includes a pediatrician and certified nurse midwife — are all hi-lingual. The Excelsior Group pediatrician will provide primary care for babies born to clinic patients, as well as other children in the community. UCSF managed care plans, and patients on Medi-Cal, can obtain care at the site.

For more information, call (415)406-1353.

FACE TO FACE

In the spirit of fair play, we will be presenting opposite views on issues that concern our neighborhood. Suggestions for future FACE TO FACE articles will be appreciated. — ed.

A Rare Slice of Wilderness in Our Back Yard

—by Carolyn Dickenson

Parking in the park — what an oxymoron. Traffic circulation and control in Glen Canyon Park is irrelevant — there should be no need for control because there should be no traffic. The original idea of a park is of land kept in its natural state for puhlic enjoyment; the word's mutation to the verb "park" reflects this society's obsession with cars.

Parks are not extensions of city streets or freeways: they are retreats. The quiet service road into the canyon, however, is too often a passageway for near-endless lines of cars leaving a wake of dust and carbon monoxide. People are forced to the shoulders. The spaces next to the Rec. Center and Silvertree are too often filled with 28-30 cars each, particularly in the summer. The road and open areas are there for walking — on two legs or four, in strollers or wheelchairs. Grass has been planted for sitting, picnicking, playing ball, not for parking or destruction by vehicle tires.

Opponents of cars in the canyon have been accused of being anti-child; the opposite is true. Children particularly belong in the park, and they belong like everyone else — on foot, where they can seek out the red-tailed hawks' nest, spend a moment at the fence watching a tennis match, or play ball with the family dog. You can't see much from the back of a minivan, strapped in a carseat and looking out through tinted glass! Cannot a parent spend 15 minutes walking a child back to the summer programs instead of schlepping him or her there in the ubiquitous car?

Any urban park is a valuable asset; Glen Canyon, with the only above–ground stream in San Francisco, wild life, wildflowers and spaciousness is a rare slice of wilderness in our backyard. By opening it indiscriminately to vehicular traffic, we are in danger of destroying what makes it special in the first place.

Limited Automobile Access in the Canyon

—Jeff Zorn

Glen Canyon Park is a multi–use facility, open to basketball players, tap dancers, and senior bridge enthusiasts, tennis/softball players, dog walkers, hikers, Silvertree day campers and the Glenridge Cooperative preschoolers. While each group might want the whole park geared just to its own needs, realistic, open–minded people will understand the need to give a little to get a lot.

The seniors who play bridge need to drive up close to the Center, and the Glenridge Cooperative Nursery School needs the road open for supplies, emergencies, and parent drop-offs. Glenridge parents walk their children in as often as possible, but schedules, health, and the demands of younger children make the complete denial of auto access not a feasible option. For the school to stay open — and it deserves no less — the road must stay open.

To put this issue of auto access in perspective, let's consider some history. Glenridge has been operating in the Silvertree building for 25 years. Only in the past few years has there been any complaint ahout the traffic, and that has been sparked by the Silvertree Day Camp's far larger volume of traffic in the summer months. To he responsive to the community's concern about traffic, Glenridge has made substantial changes — walking in has been strongly advised, admissions policies have changed to allow full-day students, carpooling has been increased, new families entering the school must sign an agreement to abide by the 4 MPH speed liinit, and most recently, Glenridge has started locking the gate around each individual car that enters the park.

These changes have greatly reduced both Glenridge and other traffic entering the park. Their effects show that limited, responsible traffic access will preserve both the park and its diverse and important uses.

"Think About It"

— Veronica Oliva

"Roni, Roni." No one had called me that since high school. I was torn between recording (with video camera) the excited responses of the two hawk chicks above me or observing the morning"s activity on the main path just below their nest area. And now I was also looking for whoever from my past had found me in the canyon Monday morning, June 24.

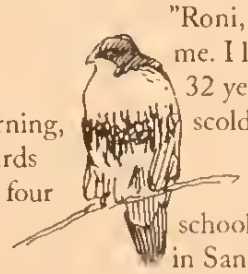
The young hawks were flying above me, from tree to tree, creek-side eucalyptus to eucs on the native grassland, calling the whole time in their young hawk voices. There were lots of people on the canyon path this morning, but no one heard or saw these magnificent fledglings. No one saw these birds whose wing span, despite their young age, is between three and a half and four feet.

The two hawk chicks, hatched around Easter, are in their third week of fledging. It is a critical time for them. They are still mastering the art of flying. This would surprise no one who has ever seen a red-tailed hawk in flight: They are fantastic soaring birds.

They are also learning to hunt. I read that after they fledge, red-tailed hawk chicks need eight weeks of training to learn the difficult skill of hunting, to catch enough prey to sustain themselves when they leave Glen Park and their parents at the end of summer. By this measure, our fledglings need five more weeks with Mom and Dad.

Winter is hard on our young hawks. The drop in numbers of available prey and the young hawk"s lack of hunting experience probably account for the fact that 50 to 70 percent of juvenile red-tailed hawks do not live to see their second spring.

The reason no one saw or heard the hawks is that it was the first day of Silver Tree Day Camp and nearly everyone on the path was in a car, driving back to the Silver Tree building. I was trying to record what it was like to be on the path when over 120 cars (240 one-way trips) take over the heart of the streamside habitat.



"Roni, Roni." The voice was coming from the open window of a car opposite me. I looked in at the driver who assumed that I would recognize her after 32 years. I did. But there was no time for a friendly greeting. Instead I was scolded. "If you had a child you would drive them into this camp. Think about it, Roni."

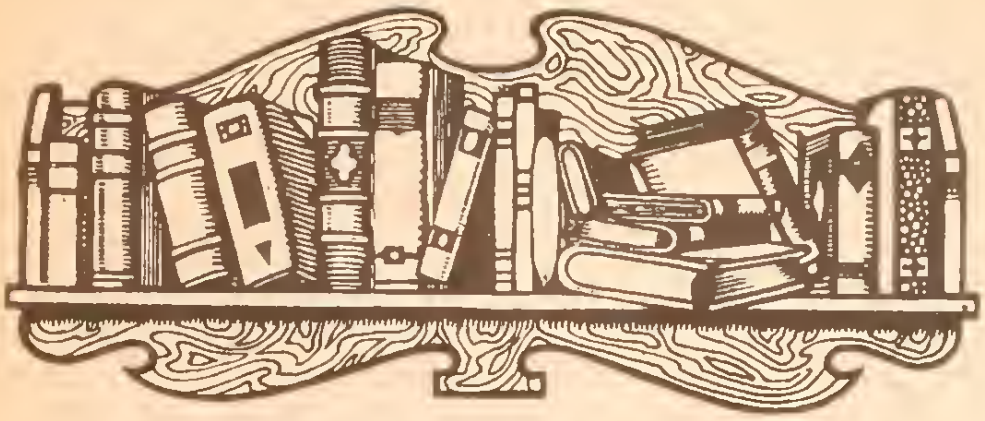
Well, I thought about it as I watched this former fellow high schooler drive back into the canyon alongside the only above-ground creek in San Francisco that her child (or anyone's) has access to...

As I listened to the call of the olive sided flycatcher that comes all the way from South America to spend spring and summer in this park...

As I watched the two hawk chicks flying above me...

As I watched the line of cars drive past me, down the only canyon in the city carrying, for the most part, one child per car for a day in nature...

I thought about it.



Check Us Out!

Jane Hudson
— Glen Park Branch Librarian

"Reach for the World — Read!" is the theme of San Francisco Public Library's 1996 Summer Reading Program, which begins Saturday, June 15th, and ends Saturday, August 10th. Children ages 13 or younger can sign up anytime during these 2 months. The program is designed to encourage children to visit the library, check out books, and read during the summer. Prizes are offered when children have read two, four, and six books and a final prize is offered to children who complete eight books.

To find out more about the Summer Reading Program and learn how to sign up for the program, drop by the Glen Park Branch Library (or your closest branch library). We'll also tell you about other special children's events we're planning throughout the summer.

We also have treats in store for adults this summer. Our shelves are brimming with new books perfect for summer reading. These are some of the new books we've received in the past month:

ADULT NONFICTION

Undaunted Courage, by Stephen E. Ambrose. Chronicles Lewis and Clark's epic 1803-06 journey across the continent and back.

False Impressions: The Hunt for Big Time Art Fakes, by Thomas Hoving. The author is the former director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

The Demon-Haunted World, by Carl Sagan. The author argues against beliefs he feels are unscientific.

The National Wildlife Federation's Guide to Gardening for Wildlife, by Craig Tufts. How to attract birds, butterflies, and other wildlife to your backyard. Profusely illustrated.

In and Out of the Kitchen in Fifteen Minutes or Less, by Anna Willan. The author is the founder of La Varenne, the famous French cooking school.

ADULT FICTION

Tales of Burning Love, by Louise Erdrich. Each of the five former wives of Jack Mauser tells a secret tale of burning love.

In the Presence of the Enemy, by Elizabeth George. A young girl disappears from the streets of London without a trace.

And This Too Shall Pass, by E. Lynn Harris. A Chicago lawyer defends a star football player falsely accused of sexual abuse.

With Child, by Laurie King. A mystery featuring San Francisco detective Kate Martinelli.

Black Bridge, A Mystery of Venice, by Edward Sklepowich. The author's fourth mystery featuring the canals of Venice.

In the Beauty of Lilies, by John Updike. Traces God's relation to four generations of an American family.

Glen Park Branch Library, 653 Chenery Street (near Diamond), 337-4740.

Tu, 10-6; W, 12-8; Th, 1-7; F, Sat, 1-6

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FESTIVAL

(Continued from page 1)

The Community Festival Committee met June 4 and June27 to begin planning for this event. Call 585-4267 for information if you are interested in working on this project. If you are unahle to be a full-fledged committee member, let us know your ideas and how you might be able to contribute to this effort. We have a few younger persons who are excited about this festival and who plan to work on the children's games component.

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CALENDAR

Jul 10 .....7:00PM
Glen Park Books, 2788 Diamond Street. San Francisco science fiction author Deborah Christian will be reading and discussing her debut SciFi thriller MAINLINE. Reva the assassin has the unique ability to slip in and out of alternate realities. She always gets her man and anyone caught in the crossfire won't live to tell about it.

Jul 17 .....7:30PM
Friends of Glen Canyon Park Meeting. Glen Canyon Recreation Center. All are welcome. Contact persons: Richard Craib 648-0862 or Jean Conner 584-8576.

Jul 20 .....10AM
Glen Park History Walk. Meet at the Glen Park Branch Library. City Guides sponsored by Beth Kershaw.

Jul 20 .....9AM-12 noon
Friends of Glen Canyon Park Work Party. Meet behind the Recreation Center near where the stream goes underground. Wear work clothes and gloves. Contact person: Jean Conner 584-8576. Work parties for special groups can be arranged.

Jul 25 .....7:30PM
White Sharks of the Farallones. San Francisco Natural History Series, 1996. The Randall Museum, 199 Museum Way (off Roosevelt Way), on Corona Heights in San Francisco.

Aug 17, ...9AM-12 noon
Friends of Glen Canyon Park Work Party. Meet behind the Recreation Center near where the stream goes underground. Wear work clothes and gloves. Contact person: Jean Conner 584-8576. Work parties for special groups can be arranged.

Aug 21 .....7:30PM
Friends of Glen Canyon Park Meeting. Glen Canyon Recreation Center. All are welcome. Contact persons: Richard Craib 648-0862 or Jean Conner 584-8576.

Aug 22 .....7:30PM
Ice Age Inhabitants of San Francisco. San Francisco Natural History Series, 1996. The Randall Museum, 199 Museum Way (off Roosevelt Way), on Corona Heights in San Francisco.

Aug 24 .....Randall Museum (554–9600)
Saturday Field Trip to Corona Heights and Mint Hill with Peter Rodda. San Francisco Natural History Series, 1996.

Sep 10 .....7:30PM
Glen Park Association Meeting. Glen Canyon Recreation Center.

Sep 18 .....7:30PM
Friends of Glen Canyon Park Meeting. Glen Canyon Recreation Center. All are welcome. Contact persons: Richard Craib 648-0862 or Jean Conner 584-8576.

Sep 21 .....9AM-12 noon
Friends of Glen Canyon Park Work Party. Meet behind the Recreation Center near where the stream goes underground. Wear work clothes and gloves. Contact person: Jean Conner 584-8576. Work parties for special groups can be arranged.

Sep 26 .....7:30PM
The Peregrines of San Francisco County with Douglas Bell. San Francisco Natural History Series, 1996. The Randall Museum, 199 Museum Way (off Roosevelt Way), on Corona Heights in San Francisco.

Please submit any additions to the calendar to:

Glen Park Association
PO Box 31292
San Francisco CA 94131

Back to School

Aug 1
City College Registration ..239–3000
Aug 19
City College Fall Semester begins
Aug 26 (Monday)
St. John's Elementary School begins 584-8383
Aug 27 (Tuesday)
Public Schools begin 241–6000

Creative Arts Charter School Now Accepting Applications

Creative Arts Charter School, a Charter School of the San Francisco Unified School District is now accepting applications for the 1996-97 school year, grades K through 3.

Creative Arts Charter School has small classes; is parent–run and tuition free.

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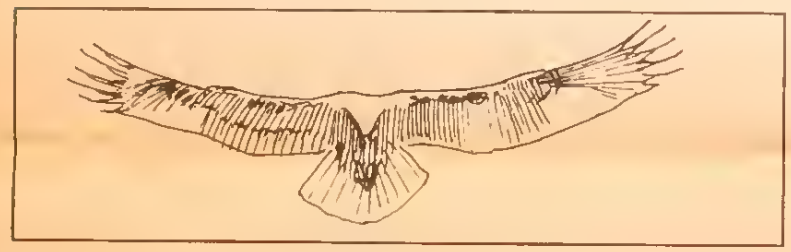
Glen Park Garden Club

Glen Park Garden Club celebrated its first anniversary in May. Members meet each month in one of our homes to share our gardens with each other and to share our love and enthusiasm for gardening. Our goal has been to learn how best to garden in our Glen Park micro-climate and to meet other neighbor gardeners who are in various stages of their gardening experience. We have novices and experts among us and we all have a love of a garden in common: indoors our out, annuals or perennials, water or rock gardens.

Our group meets the first Tuesday of each month 7-8:30 pm. We swap news about gardening events in the Bay Area, help each other with ideas & solutions for some of our own gardening problems; take week-end field trips to Filoli, Sonoma nurseries, a tour of Floorcraft Nursery. Each meeting one of our members shares their knowledge on a topic of their choosing: it gives us a chance to share our area of expertise or learn about a new topic and share it with the group.

Glen Park Garden Club has widened our circle of friends, expanded our plant knowledge and given us the opportunity to share our passion with other gardeners. We are often hidden away working in our own gardens and now we have the chance to connect with other neighborhood gardeners. It's amazing what we've learned and the friends we've made.



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The AID5 Emergency Fund provides financial assistance to people living with AID5 or disabling HIV disease. Donations help pay providers directly for housing, utility and phone bills, funeral costs and other expenses to see people through financial emergencies.

The AID5 Emergency Fund is a volunteer-run, nonprofit agency, founded in 1982. The *Every Penny Counts* project began in the fall of 1987, when a Nob Hill bartender placed a Penny Jar on his bar. By mid-1993, more than 50 million pennies (and larger coins and bills) had been dropped into hundreds of Penny Jars in the Bay Area. In Glen Park, AEF Penny Jars are at Cafe ?, Terry's Meats, CalFed Savings, Diamond Cleaners and other businesses.

Denis Wade is an *Every Penny Counts* volunteer and a former AID5 Emergency Fund board member. If you have a large penny collection or can't make it to the Penny Lane celebration, he'll be glad to pick up your coins. Call him at 334-2747, or drop a note at 2685 Diamond.

667 Chenery

(continued from page one)

reviewed again by the Planning Department, who has determined that it does meet planning code requirements. The new permits are currently being contested by neighbors interested in stopping the project, however, because the plans do meet current planning and building codes, the new permits are expected to be approved and issued.

Oil Burner Project gets go ahead

Three new homes are expected to be built on the block where the vacant Ray Oil Burner plant now sits, bordered by San Jose Avenue, Bosworth Avenue, Rousseau Street, and Milton Street. The existing obsolete facility will be demolished this summer from the entire block and construction of three new homes are expected to begin soon after. The developer, Hamrol Properties, will eventually build a total of 26 homes on the block over several years, building a few homes at a time. Although the Ray Oil Property extends beyond the block across Rousseau Street, no development has been planned outside the one block area.

A variance was granted by the Planning Department to allow the division of the lots into 20 foot width parcels and some rear yards that do not meet minimum depth requirements (although the combined open space requirements are met according to the developer). The development will also include a lane running through the center of the block. The Zoning and Planning Committee has requested plans from the developer, however, at this time, no plans have been made available.

Cars in Glen Canyon Park

(Continued from page 2)

the Recreation and Park Department and, unaffiliated rec center users. The participants were charged with the mission of attempting to find consensus on how to manage cars driving and parking in Glen Canyon. While the facilitator told us no one would be completely happy with a consensus result, she hoped that we could find some areas we could all live with.

Webster's New World Dictionary defines "consensus" as "1. An opinion held by all or most" and "2. General agreement, esp. in opinion." At the outset it was obvious to me that this group could not and would not ever agree on even the most minor issue. I thought some participants came to the table already dug in—immovable objects not willing to budge from their positions. Those who believed that unlimited car access to the Silvertree facility was not only acceptable hut necessary and should he encouraged were adamantly committed to their position. Some of these people would not even listen to suggestions of minor restrictions or alternative solutions to present traffic patterns. Since the pro-cars lohby had all the power in the group—they were the "keepers" of the status quo—it seems to me they would have had to give something up first. Those who believed no cars should never drive into Glen Canyon were equally committed to their position but were unable to make little headway in fighting the status quo.

The facilitator began the process by setting up ground rules at the first meeting. These rules included a charge to refrain from personal attacks and to listen to another's point of view — ground rules which were violated both by some members of the working group and often during the public comment period which concluded each meeting.

At the second meeting the facilitator gave the working group a choice of four alternatives on a continuum from no cars whatsoever (except for legally mandated vehicles such as ADA and service vehicles) to unlimited car access to the Silvertree facility. In between were choices involving limiting vehicle access to the Canyon and/or managing the gate. Each of us was asked to place ourselves somewhere on this continuum. These precisely limited options as well as the limited time we each had to speak precluded much creativity among the group at the meetings. The process quickly degenerated into acrimonious "debate" and the taking of rigidly adversarial positions. Those of us willing to compromise even a little saw the futility of the process early on.

Children Walking through Glen Canyon Park

After three more interminable meetings the working group ended up where it began albeit now even more divided with tempers inflamed and scapegoats identified. Many people who were present at the meetings are now attempting to place blame for the failure of the process. It seems to me that is counterproductive at this point since in retrospect the process was flawed from its inception. Park and Rec, by hiring the facilitator and setting up the working group, attempted to put a band-aid on a great big wound.

As one ohserver noted: " We had an opportunity to win a small battle and instead lost a large war." That is true. On the surface, it looks like those who want cars driving in and out of the Canyon back to the Silvertree facility won because nothing was accomplished and the status quo prevails. That is not true. We all lost. Had the working group been able to reach a consensus on, for example, how to solve the horrendous traffic problems during the summer Silvertree program, we would have made a first step in incrementally solving the car problem in the park and provided a demonstration of community cohesiveness. But as noted above, given the precise nature and structure of the process, I think we were doomed to fail.

The one positive result of the time and money spent on the working group may be that Rec and Park and those believing in an entitlement to drive into the Canyon are on notice that the majority of Glen Park residents favor making the park a car-free natural resource. It is apparent that a large number of these residents have and will commit many hours to eventually eliminating cars from Glen Canyon. The few people who believe that a car entitlement exists in Glen Canyon have been until now a vocal minority which has been able to wield political pressure far in excess of its numbers. Therefore, I believe that those who want to preserve and protect the Canyon from incursions of automobiles need to regroup, identify the location of the next skirmish and find new ways to fight. Although the working group process failed, the battle has just begun.

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These photos are just for fun — for those of us who like to compare historical shots with modern day. In the next issue we will begin a series of historical photos of Glen Park — maybe salted with interesting facts and trivia about the area.

If you have any photos, or like to write about historical subjects,call me at 337-6574. This is your newsletter, and we want to hear your ideas.

Thanks, ed.

If we don't decide the future of Glen Park ...someone else will!

Join the Glen Park Association. Dues are $10/person for the calendar year.
Send this form and a $10 check per member to:

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What are your main areas of interest/concern about Glen Park? .....

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